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Philosophy of Education

My Philosophy of Education is centered on student-based learning and the importance of the student. It seems as if students are being lost in the commotion of standardized testing. I want the focus to be brought back to the students. As education continues to progress further, students need to be ready to move forward as well, which I plan on doing by introducing them to multiple ways of learning. I believe if given multiple ways of learning students will have more potential to grow and gain knowledge. I plan to teach my students using many mediums. I want to take my class into reality and show them how the classics can relate to them personally. I will do this by teaching them using films, movie clips, art, music, young adult novels, current events articles, poetry, lyrical pieces, and other texts that may help them better understand. I am very focused on trying to build students creativity by giving them multiple ways of interpreting information, while also introducing art back into the classroom and school system. I do not want to have my classroom set up in boring rows, where I merely lecture to my students. I want to rearrange my classroom everyday in a way that will help aide my students while also being set up for the activities of the day.

One is more apt to enjoy a class when given the opportunity to have a voice of their own. Throughout my education at the University of Maine in Farmington, I have been given the opportunity to hear the different voices of others discuss education. These voices of the many philosophers out there seem to hold many good aspects that when combined together impacts the philosophy I will present in my classroom. By giving my students the opportunity to practice what is being taught in the classroom, they will be able to be an active part of learning. The most important voices in my classroom are both my students and my own, as we work together collaboratively to produce the right learning environment. Implementing Discipline with Dignity into the classroom along with giving my students a voice allows more engagement and learning to occur.

My philosophy of education is also rooted in collaboration with students, colleagues, and administrators. By working collaboratively with all subject areas, I will be able to help give my students the best education imaginable. As DuBois states, “education must not simply teach work—it must teach Life,” I want to be the teacher who connects what is being learned to my students’ lives and interests, because they are more apt to obtain the information when presented in this way. By working collaboratively with other colleagues, I can help teach students how to prepare for what lies beyond the walls of the classroom. It is not only important to work collaboratively, but also to be constantly educated on the advances in education. As a teacher, I see myself taking the words of the wise into heart. They helped me better understand who I am, as the pragmatist teacher. This is due to the fact that I always find myself learning new techniques that I can incorporate in my classroom to help my students get the most out of the content I am teaching.

As a teacher, I want to continue to learn along with my students. I look forward to them challenging me and allowing me the opportunity to rethink strategies when they do not always work the first time. The words of those before me have helped me see the real joy of teaching, such as Counts’ most memorable quote stating, “I am convinced that teaching is the greatest profession in terms of service to our people and to all mankind. Also I think it is the most interesting and challenging of all occupations.” It is due to these words that I am excited and honored to call myself a teacher. I look forward to implementing all areas of my philosophy of education into the classroom one day, while continuing to change my philosophy as I further my education and learning.